

JANUARY 23, 1829.

Read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RIVES, from the Committee on Retrenchment, reported the following bill:

A BILL

To prohibit the use of secret service money in time of peace, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of*
2 *the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*
3 so much of the act, approved on the first day of May, one
4 thousand eight hundred and ten, entitled "An act fixing the
5 compensation of public Ministers, and of Consuls residing on
6 the coast of Barbary, and for other purposes," as authorizes
7 the President of the United States to cause moneys drawn
8 from the Treasury on account of the contingent expenses of
9 foreign intercourse to be accounted for "by making a certifi-
10 cate of the amount of such expenditures as he may think ad-
11 visable not to specify," shall hereafter be construed and under-
12 stood as extending and applicable only to periods when the
13 United States may be engaged in hostilities with some foreign
14 nation; and that it shall hereafter be the duty of the Secre-
15 tary of State to lay before Congress, at the commencement of

16 each year, a detailed statement of the expenditure of all mo-
 17 neys appropriated for the contingent expenses of foreign in-
 18 tercourse, and for the contingent expenses of missions abroad.

1 *SEC. 2. And be it further enacted,* That it shall not be
 2 lawful hereafter to allow any bearer of despatches to a fo-
 3 reign country a greater compensation than at the rate of
 4 dollars per diem, for the time he may be necessarily em-
 5 ployed in such service, which shall be in full for all expenses,
 6 as well as personal services. And when any Clerk, or other
 7 officer in the pay of the Government, shall be the bearer of
 8 despatches to or from a foreign country, or a messenger to
 9 any place within the United States, the amount paid him for
 10 such services shall be deducted from the amount of salary al-
 11 lowed such clerk or other officer by law.

1 *SEC. 3. And be it further enacted,* That money appro-
 2 priated for the public service shall not hereafter be applied
 3 to, or expended for, objects other than those expressed in the
 4 act making the appropriation; and, if so applied, all such dis-
 5 bursements shall be disallowed by the accounting officers
 6 of the Treasury. Nor shall any part of the sums appropri-
 7 ated for the contingent expenses of foreign intercourse, or
 8 the contingent expenses of missions abroad, be applied to the
 9 payment of any salary or outfit to any foreign Minister or
 10 Charge des Affaires; any law or usage heretofore to the con-
 11 trary notwithstanding.